

Message Text

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64

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 INR-09 PRS-01

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OMB-01 USIA-12 EUR-10 RSR-01

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R 160930 Z APR 73

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7130

AMEMBASSYISLAMABAD

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, PK

SUBJECT: DAULTANA'S VIEWS ON ELECTIONS, ETC.

REF: ISLAMABAD 2993

1. WHILE AT AIRPORT TO PARTICIPATE IN DEPARTURE CEREMONIES FOR PRESIDENT BHUTTO MORNING OF APRIL 15, I HAD A 20- MINUTE CONVERSATION WITH MIAN MUMTAZ DAULTANA, MUSLIM LEAGUE LEADER AND PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR TO UK, WHOSE PLANE FOR LONDON WAS DELAYED.

2. REGARDING NEW ELECTIONS, DAULTANA INDICATED HE HAD,

IN LONG TALK WITH PRESIDENT IN MURREE ON APRIL 11, TRIED TO DISCOURAGE THE PRESIDENT FROM HOLDING THEM. HE SAID IT WOULD HAVE BEEN VERY IMPORTANT TO DO SO IF THE
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CONSTITUTION HAD NOT BEEN ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, BUT NOW THERE IS REALLY NO NEED. THE CONSTITUTION IS UNASSAILABLE, AND THE PPP MAJORITY IS SECURE, PARTICULARLY WITH PRESENT SUPPORT OF SOME OTHER FRIENDLY ELEMENTS. DAULTANA SAID HE HAS POINTED OUT TO PRESIDENT THAT AN ELECTION, UNDER THE BEST OF CIRCUMSTANCES, TENDS TO "RILE THINGS UP A BIT", AND RAISES SOME RISKS WHICH, HOWEVER MINOR, WOULD BETTER BE LEFT UNRAISED.

3. REGARDING BALUCHISTAN AND FRONTIER, DAULTANA SAID HE WAS COMPLETELY CONFIDENT GOVERNMENTAL PROBLEMS WOULD BE SOLVED SUITABLY WITHIN A FEW DAYS. DAULTANA PAID TRIBUTE TO WALI KHAN FOR FINALLY ADOPTING A RESPONSIBLE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE CONSTITUTION, BUT RESERVED HIS STRONGEST PRAISE FOR BIZENJO, WHO, HE SAID HAS "IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY" BOTH WITHIN NAP, WHERE HE IS MODERATING INFLUENCE, AND ON THE NATIONAL SCENE.

4. DAULTANA SAID PAKISTANI POPULATION IN UK VERY ENTHUSIASTIC OVER UNANIMOUS ADOPTION CONSTITUTION AND HAD KEPT TELEPHONING HIM IN ISLAMABAD AT ALL HOURS TO GET DETAILS AND EXPRESS THEIR ENTHUSIASM. DAULTANA SAID BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY HAD SEEMED UNCONVINCED WHEN DAULTANA ASSURED HIM SOME WEEKS AGO THAT CONSTITUTION WOULD BE PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, AND DAULTANA NOW LOOKING FORWARD TO SECRETARY'S REACTION AT DINNER BEING TENDERED HIM IN LONDON APRIL 16 BY ASAIAN AMBASSADORS.

5. I ASKED DAULTANA ABOUT THE AYUB KHAN MEETING WITH BHUTTO IN ISLAMABAD, AND DAULTANA SAID IT WAS AT AYUB'S INITIATIVE AND "PROBABLY" WAS OCCASION FOR AYUB TO EXPRESS HIS PERSONAL ENTHUSIASM FOR CONSTITUTION, WHICH DAULTANA SAID WOULD BE ENTIRELY PROPER" UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.
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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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